

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-13) announced today that Florida Hospital in Wauchula has been awarded a \$94,050 grant by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The federal funding was secured by Buchanan to support the expansion and renovation of the emergency department.

“As a rural community with limited medical resources, Hardee County relies on Florida Hospital Wauchula to provide high quality health care,” said Buchanan. “This initiative will improve access to emergency care in this medically needy area.”

The initiative will provide five additional treatment rooms, a separate waiting area for families of emergency department patients, adequate work stations for physicians and staff, and room for ancillary services and diagnostic equipment.

“Florida Hospital Wauchula is extremely pleased to be able to provide updated and enhanced emergency services for our community,” said Hospital Administrator Linda Adler. “We could not do so without our partnerships with citizens and businesses as well as Representative Buchanan's assistance. The funds received from this allocation will be felt for years to come as we continue to save lives and improve health care in Hardee County.”

The federal funding, initially approved by the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education was included in the Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act passed by the House in February.